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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 MADRID 004515

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPT FOR DS/PSD/PCB, DS/CIS/PSP, DS/DSS, DS/IP/EUR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COLLOCATION WAIVER FOR FAS OFFICES -
MISSION MADRID

REF: 12 FAH-5 H-300

1. (SBU) In accordance with guidance provided in reference, Mission Spain RSO submits this formal request for a collocation waiver for the critically needed Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) offices. This new lease space is required and has been prompted by RSO concern for the existing building's negative street setback, and the subsequent OIG Inspection emphasizing the same concerns as formal recommendations.

2. (SBU) EXEMPTION CATEGORIES:

Under 12 FAH-5 H-312, the exemption that pertains to the inability to provide for FAS collocation within the Chancery is category number 5, "offices or activities which require space in excess of available and suitable chancery space."

3. (SBU) EXEMPTION CRITERIA:

A - Post management, including the Chief of Mission and the RSO concurs on the need for and selection of this new facility and the need for a collocation waiver.

B - FAS has addressed the issue and their headquarters and on-site management all concur.

C - The number of direct-hire U.S. citizens assigned to the FAS office is commensurate with the staffing requirements and manpower authorizations to properly support the office and its activities.

D - All applicable required physical security standards will be met prior to occupancy.

4. (SBU) EXEMPTION NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

A - POST/OFFICE INVOLVED - American Embassy Madrid, Foreign Agricultural Service.

B - LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION - The building is located approximately three block from the existing Chancery at Pinar 6, on the second floor of a seven floor building. According to GSO a Spanish national, Maria Pilar Prado, owns property. The building is standard Spanish construction described by the Embassy Facilities Office as poured concrete, reinforced with rebar. There are no steel beams installed, in that, this is not a standard office building, rather an apartment building retrofitted to house both residences and offices.

The proposed office space is located on the interior of the building with no windows facing the street. There is approximately 100 feet of set back on the back side of the building but much less on the front faade that sits on a public street. It has an underground parking garage that has access control systems in the form of garage door openers for occupants of the building.

The windows are non-laminated glass and there is one stairwell for egress that ends at the lobby.

Access control to the building is by occupant owned keys and a doorman who works intermittent hours during the day and evening. There is no fire alarm system throughout the building.

C - EXEMPTION CATEGORY/REASONS - See above.

D - SUPPORTING CONCURRENCE DOCUMENTATION - The Mission/FAS cable supportive of this request will follow SEPTEL, referencing this cable.

E - PHYSICAL SECURITY STANDARDS FOR OCCUPANCY - See above. A comprehensive Physical Security Survey will follow via SEPTEL.

F - USE/STORAGE OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL - No classified material will be handled, processed, discussed or stored in this facility in accordance with OSPB security standards.

5. (U) EXCEPTION REQUEST PROCEDURES

Standard Involved:

Post requests a waiver and exception for setback for the proposed FAS Office Space.

Justification:

Typical preexisting construction in metropolitan Madrid does not provide setback of 100 feet. Additionally, the office space FAS is considering is located on the interior of the building offering improved protection to occupants and visitors to the office.

Statement of agency operation requirements;

FAS Madrid is requesting the exception/waiver for their new commercial office space. A cable from FAS HQ has been requested and FAS Madrid ensures post that funding will be provided for all RSO required physical security upgrades. FAS Madrid further ensures that they will not occupy the new office space until all physical security upgrades have been completed, and they understand that the waiver/exception will not be granted until receipt of written concurrence from FAS HQ.

Survey Report: Will be sent via pouch and will include description of building, city map, neighborhood map, property plot plan, proposed office space layout, permits (if applicable), photographs, and COM and RSO statements and recommendations.

MANZANARES